

A MISTAKE IN THE DATE

The Legations at Peking Reported Safe Only Up to June 28.

Doubt Cast on the Accuracy of Consul General Warren's Despatch—Little Encouragement to Be Derived From the Situation—Russian Said to Have Been Scolded to Death by the Mohs—Considered That Seymour's Retreat Caused Anti-Foreign Feeling to Spread—Anxiety Felt Concerning Conditions at Tientsin—Chinese Attack the City—Two Japanese Officers Killed.

LONDON, July 9.—Doubts are thrown in some quarters on the accuracy of the information furnished by Acting Consul Warren at Shanghai to the effect that a messenger, who left Peking on July 3, reported that the British legation was then holding out against the Chinese.

This information is supposed to have been received from Sheng, the Director of Railways and Posts. One correspondent at Shanghai claims to know that Sheng today admitted that there was an error in the date on which the courier left the capital.

It is said, ought to have been June 28, two days previous to the alleged massacre of foreigners, and that July 3 is the date on which the courier reached Chin-Pu en route to his destination.

Another Shanghai correspondent ascribes to the Consul collectively an official announcement that the legations were safe on July 4, and that the only fear for those besieged was that they would run short of food.

It is hopeless, however, to attempt to sift a grain of truth from the columns of shafts that are transmitted from Shanghai, and there seems to be no other alternative than to wait for further authoritative news as to the fate of the members of the legations and the other foreigners in the city.

There is little doubt that Admiral Seymour's enforced retreat caused the anti-foreign feeling to spread. It is with, with the apparent certainty that a further reverse would place every foreign settlement in the Empire in danger, that imposes extreme caution on the relievers, who will not risk any further advance until their force is greatly augmented and thoroughly organized. It is stated that 50,000 troops are imperative for the purpose, and several weeks is the term suggested as necessary for preparation.

An Unexplained Rumor.

Meanwhile, there is a curious and hitherto unexplained report from Nanking by way of Shanghai, according to which a large Russo-Japanese force has already advanced toward Peking. It is said that it followed the railway as far as Lang-Fang and then swiftly diverged to Hung-Tung, eighteen miles southeast of Peking. Upon arriving there it divided into two columns and attacked and severely defeated the Chinese troops, killing a thousand of them. This story needs much confirmation before it is accepted as true.

Anxiety has again arisen regarding Tientsin, and the recent hints of its impending evacuation by the allies seem about to be verified. According to Chefoo telegrams, Imperial troops have swept down from the neighborhood of the Great Wall and almost overwhelmed the city.

On July 3 or 4 they occupied the arsenal which the allies captured on June 30. They fortified the native city and began a severe bombardment of the foreign settlement. According to one report a big engagement followed, the Chinese being defeated with heavy loss.

Two Japanese artillery officers were killed and Mr. Campbell, Admiral Seymour's interpreter, was wounded. Admiral Seymour's house was damaged, but he was not hurt. Provisions are reported to be scarce, while the difficulty of procuring good water has heretofore been pointed out in these despatches. The women and children have been ordered to leave the city and proceed to Taku.

Orders From Tuan.

The attitude of Yuan-Shi-Kai, the Governor of Shantung, is an important factor in the situation. He is supposed to control 40,000 trained troops, and it is stated on Chinese authority that he has been ordered by Prince Tuan to take 15,000 of his foreign drilled men and capture Nanking from Liu, the loyalist viceroy.

It is stated that he has refused to leave Chin-Pu, his capital, intending to adhere to the policy of the pro-foreign viceroys of the Yangtze-Kiang region, but only time will show his real intentions. His adherence to the rebel movement would have the gravest consequences.

Li-Hung-Hung, ex-Governor of Shantung, who was dismissed in compliance with Germany's demand, has been in Hunan on a futile mission to excite the Hunanese troops to march to Peking. They declared that they would only obey Viceroy Liu. It is reported that the Imperial tutor, Hsu-Tung, an anti-foreigner, has been murdered by Boxers in Peking, together with his household, numbering 300 persons.

A despatch to the "Telegraph" from Canton, dated July 6, says that Li Hung-Chang has been formally notified that President McKinley cordially appreciates his assurance of friendship for the allies, and now that anarchy controls the capital the President trusts that the responsible provincial authorities will maintain order and fulfill treaty and international obligations. Li Hung-Chang is taking strong measures to preserve order in Canton. The execution of rowdies have averaged five daily for a month.

Chinese Troops Desert.

The "Telegraph's" Shanghai correspondent reports trouble near the German settlement of Tientsin. Lieutenant Scherzer was sent out with a company of disciplined Chinese troops, who deserted to the enemy with their arms and ammunition.

The "Times" Shanghai correspondent, in a despatch dated Sunday, says that information concerning affairs in the north continues to be derived entirely from native official sources, chiefly through Yuan-

Shi-Kai, Governor of Shantung, and his director of railways, Sheng.

The prospects for an early advance of the relief party on Peking have improved. Their messages report that the attacks on the legations are slackening, and that the defenders are obtaining material support from native sympathizers.

The knowledge that adequate reinforcements are en route is calculated to have an early effect in Peking and the provinces.

Serious disturbances continue to be reported from a widening area in Manchuria, Pe-Chi-Li and Shantung. It is reasonable to expect that the movement in the near future will lack cohesion, as shown in Tientsin and Peking, and that from lack of a food supply it will tend to dissolve into native bands, who will plunder the country on the lines of least resistance.

The telegraph station at Mukden has been destroyed, severing communication with Port Arthur by way of Korea. The line from Peking-Fu to Tai-Yuen-Fu has also been destroyed. The only existing means of communication with Peking is by courier to a station in north Shantung and thence by telegraph by way of Tsinan-Fu.

A despatch to the "Times" from St. Petersburg says that the newspapers publish what purports to be a telegram from Peking stating that the members of the Russian mission were tortured by having boiling water poured on their heads, and which they were decapitated and their bodies cut to pieces.

RUSSIAN MINISTER SLAIN.

Confirmation of Baron De Giers' Death Received in St. Petersburg.

LONDON, July 8.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the "Daily Mail" says that a relative of M. De Giers, the Russian Minister to China, has received confirmation of the report relative to his death in Peking.

EMBARKING FOR CHINA.

Shanghai Hears That Japan Is Sending 25,000 Troops.

SHANGHAI, July 7.—News has reached here to the effect that 25,000 Japanese troops are now embarking on transports for China.

LI HUNG-CHANG'S APPEAL.

Wants America, England, and Japan to Preserve the Empire.

LONDON, July 9.—The "Times" says it learns from a private message from Canton that Li Hung-Chang has telegraphed to the Chinese Minister in London, urging him to request Great Britain to approach the United States with the view to their issuing a joint invitation to Japan to co-operate with them in the maintenance of the Chinese Empire and the establishment of a strong Government on a solid basis, the three powers then uniting in an appeal for the support of all the other powers.

THE KAISER'S REWARD.

Almost Impossible to Send Messages to Peking.

BERLIN, July 8.—The Governor of Tientsin has transmitted to Emperor William the following message from the Governor of Shantung, replying to His Majesty's offer of 1,000 taels' reward for every foreigner of any nationality rescued and delivered to a magistrate:

"From the outset I have been full of anxiety concerning the Europeans in Peking. I have made repeated attempts to send messages and help to them, but in vain."

"Now all the roads to Peking are beset by rebels, and therefore whatever messages are taken off less prospect of success. Nevertheless I shall consider it my duty to do the utmost for their help."

Admiral Benham, in a despatch dated Taku, July 7, notifies the admiralty that he has sent to Nagasaki, Japan, a number of German and Belgian refugees from Tientsin, comprising sixteen women, nine children, and nineteen men. He adds that all those who were wounded at Tientsin are doing well on July 2. The city can still only be reached by water.

BELGIAN INTERESTS IN CHINA.

The Government May Decide to Send Troops to the East.

BRUSSELS, July 8.—Owing to Belgium's great financial interests in China and the number of Belgians residing in that country, the Government is considering the question of sending a small contingent of troops to the Far East to act in conjunction with the allies there.

The Chinese situation is causing considerable anxiety in financial circles. King Leopold is much disappointed by the sudden termination of his plan for colonizing the extensive territory recently ceded to him. The Belgian Consul at Hankow cables that all is well there.

FOR SERVICE IN CHINA.

Philippine ex-Regiments Want to Raise Native Regiments.

MANILA, July 8.—Many paroled rebel ex-officers are agitating the formation of native regiments for service with the Americans in China. They claim that they would be able to raise 10,000 men accustomed to arms for this purpose and as for the soldier-like qualities of the Filipinos they point out the famous Seventy-third Regiment, composed of natives, which served under Spain.

THE MAINE TO GO TO CHINA.

Hospital Ship to Be Utilized for Service in the East.

LONDON, July 8.—The Government has accepted from the committee having the matter in charge the use of the hospital ship Maine for service in China. She will sail at the end of the week with the same crew she had in South Africa. The Maine will be used as a base hospital ship, and the Government has not yet decided at what port she will be located.

THE CAESAR OUTWARD BOUND.

Collier Starts on Her Long Voyage for the Orient.

NORFOLK, Va., July 8.—The United States collier Caesar, which has been for a week or so awaiting final orders to sail for Manila or China, will sail for our Far Eastern colony today. Captain Cape Henry outward bound at 4 o'clock this afternoon. The lighting which struck her foremast last night did no material damage.

Sound, good, No. 2 Flooring, only \$2 per 100 sq. ft.; No. 1, 2 1/2; No. 3, 3 1/2; No. 4, 4 1/2; No. 5, 5 1/2; No. 6, 6 1/2; No. 7, 7 1/2; No. 8, 8 1/2; No. 9, 9 1/2; No. 10, 10 1/2; No. 11, 11 1/2; No. 12, 12 1/2; No. 13, 13 1/2; No. 14, 14 1/2; No. 15, 15 1/2; No. 16, 16 1/2; No. 17, 17 1/2; No. 18, 18 1/2; No. 19, 19 1/2; No. 20, 20 1/2; No. 21, 21 1/2; No. 22, 22 1/2; No. 23, 23 1/2; No. 24, 24 1/2; No. 25, 25 1/2; No. 26, 26 1/2; No. 27, 27 1/2; No. 28, 28 1/2; No. 29, 29 1/2; No. 30, 30 1/2; No. 31, 31 1/2; No. 32, 32 1/2; No. 33, 33 1/2; No. 34, 34 1/2; No. 35, 35 1/2; No. 36, 36 1/2; No. 37, 37 1/2; No. 38, 38 1/2; No. 39, 39 1/2; No. 40, 40 1/2; No. 41, 41 1/2; No. 42, 42 1/2; No. 43, 43 1/2; No. 44, 44 1/2; No. 45, 45 1/2; No. 46, 46 1/2; No. 47, 47 1/2; No. 48, 48 1/2; No. 49, 49 1/2; No. 50, 50 1/2; No. 51, 51 1/2; No. 52, 52 1/2; No. 53, 53 1/2; No. 54, 54 1/2; No. 55, 55 1/2; No. 56, 56 1/2; No. 57, 57 1/2; No. 58, 58 1/2; No. 59, 59 1/2; No. 60, 60 1/2; No. 61, 61 1/2; No. 62, 62 1/2; 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